

Message Text

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ACTION ERDA-07

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1771

UNCLAS PARIS 19688

DEPT PASS ERDA MICHAEL D. MCDONOUGH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: IGEN, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH SYMPOSIUM ON HYDROCARBON EXPLORATION:
REQUEST FOR U.S. SPEAKER

REF: (A) ERDA CABLE OF 28 JULY; (B) PARIS 18624

1. AS NOTED, PARAGRAPH 2 REFTEL B MR. BALACEANU WAS IN FLORIDA THROUGH JULY 24 AND COULD HAVE ANSWERED THE QUESTIONS RAISED IN REFTEL A. HE IS THE ORGANIZER FOR THIS SESSION OF THE SYMPOSIUM; HOWEVER, HE WILL NOT RETURN TO PARIS UNTIL LATER IN AUGUST.
2. THE U.S. SPEAKER WOULD BE ONE OF THREE OR FOUR SPEAKERS FOR A TWO-HOUR PERIOD. DURING THAT SESSION EACH SPEAKER WOULD TALK FOR APPROXIMATELY TWENTY MINUTES AND THEN THE PANEL OF SPEAKERS WOULD FIELD QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE. THIS IS THE CURRENT FRENCH PRACTICE FOR A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION.
3. THE SPONSORS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ARE TWO ASSOCIATIONS: A) ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCHERS ON THE TECHNIQUES OF EXPLOITATION OF PETROLEUM (ARTEP), WHICH INCLUDES THE INSTITUT FRANCAIS DE PETROLE AND TWO FRENCH PETROLEUM COMPANIES--TOTAL AND ELF-AQUITAINE; B) THE FRENCH STUDY COMMITTEE ON MARINE PETROLEUM (CEPM). THE SPONSORS WILL MAKE THE FINAL SELECTION OF THE SPEAKER, EXTEND THE INVITATION, AND WILL COVER ALL TRIP-RELATED
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EXPENSES.

4. MR. BALACEANU HAS ASKED US FOR ONE OR TWO SUGGESTIONS FOR A SPEAKER. HE APPARENTLY HAS A PRELIMINARY LIST, WHICH INCLUDES ONE OR TWO PEOPLE FROM FEA, A DR. VANDERIN OF ERDA, A U. S. SENATOR, AND ONE OR TWO INDUSTRIAL LEADERS. WHAT HE WANTED WAS OUR THOUGHTS ON WHO COULD BEST SPEAK ON THE SUBJECT INDICATED IN PARAGRAPH L OF REFTTEL B AND WOULD BE INTERESTED AND AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONFERENCE.

5. WE APPRECIATE ERDA'S ASSISTANCE IN THIS MATTER AND LOOK FORWARD TO THE RECEIPT OF THEIR SUGGESTED SPEAKER(S).
GAMMON

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